

Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A compressed and processed solid fuel composition for destroying creosote in chimney flues comprising:

a solid particulate combustible cellulosic material (a);

a creosote-destroying chemical agent (b) chosen from the group consisting of metallic chloride of sodium, potassium, zinc, tin, copper, or ammonium phosphate, trisodium phosphate, ammonium salt and mixtures thereof; and

relative proportions of (a) and (b) are, by weight, from 50 to 99.9% of (a) and 50 to 00.1% of (b).

2. (Current Amended) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim 1, in the form of a log, said log being compressed at from 10,000 to 20,000 psi.

3. (Currently Amended) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim [3]2, wherein said log is 6 to 14 inches in length.

4. (Currently Amended) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim 1,

having an autonomous combustion time [with flame of] from 30 minutes to 4 hours.

5. (Original) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim 1, wherein the solid particulate combustible cellulosic material (a) consists entirely of wood particles.

6. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein the metallic chloride is a combination of sodium chloride and copper chloride.

7. (Withdrawn) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim 7, wherein said agent further includes ammonium phosphate.

8. (Withdrawn) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim 1, wherein the agent further includes trisodium phosphate.

9. (Currently Amended) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim [7]1, wherein the agent (b) comprises a metallic chloride and trisodium phosphate in a proportion of 10 – 90% by weight of the former and 90 – 10% by weight of the latter.

10. (Withdrawn) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim 1, wherein the agent further includes an ammonium salt.

11. (Withdrawn) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim 1, wherein the agent further includes ammonium phosphate.

12. (Withdrawn) The processed solid fuel composition according to claim 1, wherein the agent further includes a combination of ammonium salt and ammonium phosphate.

13. (Currently Amended) A process for manufacturing a compressed and processed solid fuel composition for destroying creosote within chimney flues, comprising the steps of:
admixing a solid particulate combustible cellulosic material (a), and a chemical catalytic agent that disaggregates creosote (b), whereby the relative proportions by weight are 50 – 99.9% of (a), and 50 – 00.1% (b) for 100 parts of (a+b); and
shaping and compressing the resultant mixture into a generally elongated log.

14. (Current Amended) The process according to claim [12]13, wherein (a) and (b) are admixed and the resulting mixture is extruded into a log at a pressure of from 10,000 to 20,000 psi.

15. (Currently Amended) The compressed and processed solid fuel composition as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an odor enhancer in an amount of not more than 5% by weight of the total composition.

16. (Original) The processed solid fuel composition as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a flame colorant in an amount of not more than 5% by weight of the total composition.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a solid fuel composition for destroying creosote within a chimney flue of a solid fuel burning appliance, comprising the steps of:

admixing a solid particulate combustible cellulosic material (a) and a creosote-destroying chemical agent (b);

combining said cellulosic material (a) and chemical agent (b) to form a substantially homogeneous aggregate; and

forming and compressing said aggregate to render it into a solid elongated form.

18. (Currently Amended) A process for destroying creosote within a chimney flue of a solid fuel burning appliance, said flue having an undesirable accumulation of creosote deposits therein, comprising the steps of:

inserting a creosote-destroying processed solid fuel composition into an existing fire within said appliance, said processed solid fuel composition comprised of:

a.[.] a solid particulate combustible cellulosic material; and

b. a chemical agent that disaggregates creosote[;].

providing ignition and combustion of said solid fuel [fire log] within said appliance;

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releasing said chemical agent in a gaseous form within said flue; and
providing a substantially constant temperature, whereby effectiveness of said chemical agent is optimized thereby disaggregating and destroying the creosote deposits.

19. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 18, wherein the processed solid fuel composition is in the form of at least one log[,and is added to an existing fire in the appliance].